

Message

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Early Bird Registration for Spring Meeting Ends March 1; New Agenda Issued



If you haven't yet registered for the action-packed ECOS Spring Meeting, do so by **March 1** to receive the early bird rate! ECOS today issued a new and expanded [draft agenda](#) for the gathering in Crystal City, Virginia. The meeting centers on on *Partnership in Action: Advancing Collaboration, Certainty, & Confidence*.

Confirmed keynoters include U.S. EPA Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler and Senate Environment & Public Works Ranking Member Tom Carper (D-DE). In the spirit of collaboration, the meeting also will feature discussions with U.S. EPA Associate and Regional Administrators and a dinner reception at the Canadian Embassy.

Sessions will touch on a range of timely topics: oil and gas methane, stormwater and nutrient management, water infrastructure, environmental justice, digital transformation, permit timeliness, regulatory compliance, PFAS, recycling, the energy/environment nexus, renewables, budgets, state legislative relations, and more.

Reserve a room without delay at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel! See registration, hotel, and contact information [here](#). [Parisien]

U.S. EPA Delays National Program Guidance Release to Align with White House

This week, U.S. EPA revised the schedule for developing its Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 National Program Guidance (NPG) documents. The change aligns with another shift in the release schedule for the FY 2020 President's Budget Request. A chart of updated milestones in the NPG process follows, and more information is available at EPA's [NPG website](#).

During the April NPG comment period, ECOS will coordinate conference calls for states with each of the main EPA program offices. [McAleer]

March 8 – 15, 2019	Internal review of draft FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidances.
Office contact will be available	Comments provided to appropriate National Program and OCFO. Draft guidances and comment template on the National Program Guidance SharePoint Site.
April 1 – May 3	External comment period on the draft FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidances. Commenters use Comments (available on EPA's National Program Guidance website) and provide to appropriate National Program Office contact and OCFO.
	Agency holds: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• States/ECOS/NPM conference calls.• National teleconferences with tribes.
June 7	Final FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidances posted on EPA's National Program Guidance website.

U.S. EPA 2018 Power Plant Data Show NOx and SO2 Declines, CO2 Increase

On February 20, U.S. EPA released [preliminary data](#) on 2018 emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur dioxide (SO2), and carbon dioxide (CO2) from power plants in the lower 48 states. Compared to 2017 emissions, the data show a 4 percent decline in NOx, a 6 percent decline in SO2, and a 0.6 percent increase in CO2 emissions.

EPA has updated its [Power Plant Emission Trends webpage](#) with data from 2018. These pages offer charts, maps and summary tables of the most recent emission data and other information on power plants. [Poole]



State News You Can Use

[Wyoming Modernizes Financial Assurance Regs](#)

[Mississippi Task Force to Address Declining Water Levels](#)

[Michigan Boosts Recycling Reporting](#)

Need-to-Know News in Chemicals and Emerging Contaminants & Land and Waste

U.S. EPA Releases Update to Chemical List for First Time in 40 Years

Area of Focus: Chemicals and Emerging Contaminants

U.S. EPA on February 19 released the first update in 40 years to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Inventory. The update identifies that less than half of the total number of chemicals on the current TSCA Inventory (47 percent, or 40,655 of the 86,228 chemicals) are in commerce today. For chemicals protected under Confidential Business Information standards, EPA is developing a rule to outline how the agency will review and substantiate claims seeking to protect chemical identities on the confidential portion of the Inventory.

The Inventory lists chemicals actively being manufactured, processed, and imported in the U.S. In 2018, the Inventory showed more than 86,000 chemicals available for commercial production and use. The 2016-amended TSCA requires EPA to update the list and designate which are active and inactive. [Longworth]

CDC Announces Communities for PFAS Exposure Assessments

Area of Focus: Chemicals and Emerging Contaminants

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC)/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) announced this week the 10 sites chosen for its upcoming PFAS exposure assessments. They are:

1. Bucks and Montgomery Counties, PA near Horsham Air Guard Station and former Naval Air Warfare Center*
2. Berkeley County, WV near Shepherd Field Air National Guard Base
3. El Paso County, CO near Peterson Air Force Base
4. Fairbanks North Star Borough, AK near Eielson Air Force Base
5. Hampden County, MA near Barnes Air National Guard Base

6. Lubbock County, TX near Reese Technology Center
7. New Castle County, DE near New Castle Air National Guard Base
8. Orange County, NY near Stewart Air National Guard Base
9. Spokane County, WA near Fairchild Air Force Base
10. Westhampton, NY near Gabreski Air National Guard Base*

**Site from CDC/ATSDR-funded pilots in partnership with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the New York State Department of Health.*

Under the National Defense Authorization Act, CDC/ATSDR was asked to examine human exposure to PFAS in communities near current or former military installations.

CDC/ATSDR used multi-step approach to identify communities that reflect the legislative requirements and scientific needs of the assessments. Assessments will identify where exposure originates, how much people are exposed to, and how long people have been exposed. The assessments will not look at what types of health problems the exposure might cause.

For more information, see [here](#). [Longworth]

U.S. EPA Seeks Comments on Proposed Amendments to E-Manifest Forms

Area of Focus: Land and Waste

U.S. EPA has announced its intent to submit electronic manifest (e-Manifest) information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The February 8 *Federal Register* (FR) notice provides an overview of the manifest program for hazardous waste and proposes estimates of the time and cost for the public to respond to the collection of information for the entire manifest program.

Additionally, the notice proposes amendments to the manifest forms (both paper and electronic). Specifically, the notice requests comment on how to:

- Improve the precision of waste quantities and units of measure reported in Items 11 and 12 of the hazardous waste manifest, respectively;
- Enhance the quality of international shipment data reported on the manifest; and
- Assist EPA with integrating e-Manifest and biennial reporting (BR) requirements.

View the *Federal Register* [notice](#) here. The deadline for comments is **April 9**. [Parisien]

Career Opportunities



Colorado Seeks Environmental Programs Director to Succeed Martha Rudolph

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is in search of a successor for Martha Rudolph, who recently retired from her position as an Environmental Programs Director. The successful candidate will serve as the CDPHE lead in setting a department-wide vision for environmental protection and health, including assessing and developing complex environmental policy options in the face of competing interests and opinions, including the state Legislature and Governor's office, business and environmental organizations, Colorado congressional delegation and other members of Congress, U.S. EPA and other federal agencies such as the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Energy, and Defense.

The position manages four divisions and staffing for two commissions including the Air Quality Control Commission and Water Quality Control Commission. It is a member of the CDPHE Executive Team and direct reports to the CDPHE Executive Director.

For more information on the position, qualifications, and how to apply by the **March 17** deadline, visit [this page](#). [Hanson]

Massachusetts Hiring Director of Watershed Planning

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) seeks a Director of its Watershed Planning Program. The Director oversees all aspects of MassDEP's activities pertaining to surface water quality standards, surface water quality monitoring and assessment, associated data management, development of Total Maximum Daily Loads, and watershed planning.

For more information, see the [position announcement](#). [Parisien]

New York In Search of Climate Change Director

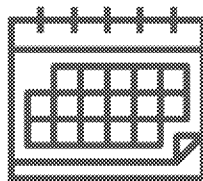
The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) seeks applicants for the position of Director of the Office of Climate Change (OCC). The OCC is responsible for administering DEC's climate programs including: the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and other multistate partnerships; Climate Smart Communities; Environmental Protection Fund; programs to reduce emissions of warming agents of various high intensity short-lived climate pollutants; initiatives to sequester carbon through natural and working lands; strategies to decarbonize the transportation sector; and programs to build resilience of New York's agencies and communities.

For more information, see the [position announcement](#). [Parisien]

Utah Seeks Administrative Operations Director

The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is seeking an Administrative Operations Director. This position reports directly to the Executive Director of the DEQ and is responsible for the coordination and management of facilities and administrative services within the department.

Please see the [job announcement](#) for additional information and to apply. [Swanson]



Upcoming Events

U.S. EPA on PFAS

U.S. EPA's Office of Research and Development will host its small systems monthly webinar on **February 26 at 2-3 p.m. Eastern** to discuss treatment technologies for removing chemicals of concern, specifically per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, cyanotoxins, perchlorate, and 1,4 dioxane. The webinar was previously scheduled for January 29 but was moved due to the government shutdown. If you registered for the January 29 webinar, you do not need to register again.

More information on the webinar is available [here](#). [Longworth]

U.S. EPA on CMAQ Modeling

U.S. EPA's Office of Research and Development will host a tools and resources webinar on **February 27 at 3-4 p.m. Eastern** (rescheduled from January 16) on recent enhancements to the Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) Modeling System. CMAQ is a comprehensive state-of-the-science air pollution modeling system used worldwide to study air pollution issues and guide development of abatement strategies. States and EPA have used the system for more than two decades. CMAQ is regularly updated to incorporate knowledge on the state of the science and more effectively characterize air quality. The latest version, CMAQv5.3, is slated for release this summer.

To join the webinar, please register [here](#). If you are unable to listen through your computer speakers, dial (866) 299-3188 and enter access code 202-564-6669. Contact [Lisa Matthews](#) of U.S. EPA for more information or [Amy Scheuer](#) with registration questions. [Parisien]

National Academies on Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Stormwater Discharges

Under the Clean Water Act, U.S. EPA's Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) for industrial stormwater discharges requires industries to manage onsite stormwater to minimize discharges of pollutants to the environment. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine have been reviewing U.S. EPA's MSGP to identify opportunities for improvement with a focus on monitoring and retention standards. On **February 27 at 3:30 p.m. Eastern**, the National Academies is hosting a webinar to review this [report](#) finding that EPA has been slow to incorporate new knowledge into its MSGP permit revisions.

Register [here](#). [Hanson]

ECOS Cross-Media Committee on Emerging Contaminants

The Cross-Media Committee will hold a call on **February 28 at 12-1 p.m. Eastern** to hear about the work of the Association of Clean Water Agencies and Association of State Drinking Water Agencies on emerging contaminants. The call also will provide updates on ECOS' Toxic Substances Control Act and PFAS work, and discuss resolutions for the Spring Meeting.

If you would like to join the call but have not received the call-in information, contact [Carolyn Hanson](#). [Hanson]

ITRC on Managing PFAS Contamination



The Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council invites state environmental agency representatives and others to attend an in-person PFAS training class on **February 28 at 1-5 p.m. Mountain Time** in Denver, Colorado.

Held in collaboration with the [RemTEC Summit](#), this class is taught by environmental experts and will focus on PFAS regulations, site characterization, risk assessment,

treatment technologies, and more. The class is free for state regulators and others. You do not need to register for the RemTEC Summit to attend this training.

Travel scholarships are available for state and federal staff traveling more than 50 miles. Please contact Tadbir Singh for more information.

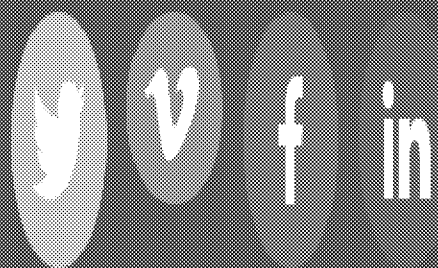
Learn more and register [here](#). [Olonoff]

ITRC on Groundwater Statistics for Environmental Project Managers

ITRC will hold an online training course on *Groundwater Statistics for Environmental Project Managers* on **March 7 at 1-3:15 p.m. Eastern**.

Statistical techniques may be used throughout the process of cleaning up contaminated groundwater. It can be challenging for practitioners who are not experts in statistics to interpret and use statistical techniques. The training class will encourage and support project managers and others who are not statisticians to: use the ITRC [guidance document](#) on *Groundwater Statistics and Monitoring Compliance* to make better decisions for projects; apply key aspects of the statistical approach to groundwater data; and answer common questions on background, compliance, trend analysis, and monitoring optimization.

Learn more and register [here](#). [Olonoff]



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